

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION
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As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

SELF-ANCHORING SLING AND INTRODUCER SYSTEM

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

☒ was filed on **August 1, 2003** as United States Patent Application No. or PCT
International Application No. **10/633,254** and was amended on
(if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b), of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designates at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filed (Day/Mo./Yr.)</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u> (Yes unless box is checked)
			<input type="checkbox"/>
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filed (Day/Mo./Yr.)</u>
60/400,616	02/08/2002
60/479,039	17/06/2003

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filed (Day/Mo./Yr.)</u>	<u>Status</u> (Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration numbers).

Lawrence Rosenthal, Reg. No. 24,377
Steven B. Pokotilow, Reg. No. 26,405
James J. DeCarlo, Reg. No. 36,120
Matthew W. Siegal, Reg. No. 32,941
David L. Schaeffer, Reg. No. 32,716

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**Matthew W. Siegal
(212) 806-5400**

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor: **Douglas G. Evans**

Inventor's signature: *DG Evans* Date: 4/5/04

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Full Name of Second Inventor, if any: **Ken Butcher**

Inventor's signature: *Ken Butcher* Date: 4-5-04

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Full Name of Third Inventor, if any Michele Gandy Davis

Inventor's signature: Michele Gandy Davis Date: 4/5/04

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Full Name of Fourth Inventor, if any _____

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Citizen/Subject of: _____

Residence: _____

Post Office Address: _____

Full Name of Fifth Inventor, if any _____

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Citizen/Subject of: _____

Residence: _____

Post Office Address: _____

Docket No
126688/0037
MWS:DLS:PLT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Douglas G. EVANS, et al.** Group Art Unit: **3731**

Application No.: **10/633,254**

Examiner: **Not Yet Known**

Filed: **August 1, 2003**

For: **PRINTER INCLUDING AN INK CARTRIDGE**

Date: **April 2, 2004**

DECLARATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir,

I, Lorraine Buschhoff, declare and state that:

1. I am a citizen of the United States, residing at 100 Manhattan Avenue #605 Union City, NJ 07087.
2. I have been employed by Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP (Stroock) as a paralegal since June 26, 2000.
3. From June 26, 2000 through the present, my duties include receiving, analyzing, and docketing all communications received from the Patent and Trademark Office relating to patent applications and patents.
4. Communications with the Patent and Trademark Office are docketed using the PATTSY 2000 prosecution tracking system from OP solutions, Inc. This system allows me to enter, for each application, the type of Patent and Trademark Office correspondence received and any applicable due dates. PATTSY allows me to generate, for each application, a record of all official correspondence and our responses.

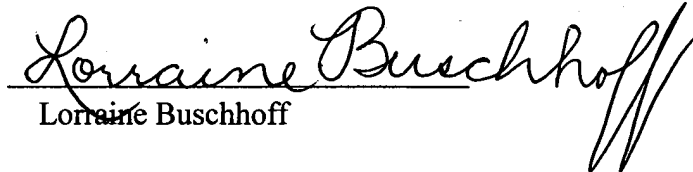
5. Once the Patent and Trademark Office communication is docketed, I forward the communication and any report letter to the attorney responsible for the particular matter.

6. I have checked the Stroock file and PATTSY docket record for the subject application and state that to the best of my knowledge and belief, Stroock and no attorney at Stroock received by mail a "Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application" in the subject application. As evidence, a copy of the PATTSY docket record for this application is annexed as Exhibit A.

7. In view of my standard practice at Stroock, and since the docketing record does not show the Notice, I conclude that the Notice to File Missing Parts was not received in our office.

8. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: April 2, 2004


Lorraine Buschhoff